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Letter dated 1 August 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring the following to your attention:

- On 16 June 2006, the French Government lifted a series of restrictions against a number of the leading members of a well-known terrorist group, namely, the Mujahedeen Khalq Organization (MKO). The restrictions were previously imposed with a view to controlling the activities of the said terrorist organization.

- That decision runs counter to the decision of the European Union to place the MKO on its list of terrorist organizations. It also contravenes the international commitments of the French Government in the area of combating terrorism. It is obvious that such an approach towards terrorist groups undermines the worldwide consensus against terrorism and could only result in emboldening terrorists to continue their inhumane activities.

- Undoubtedly, terrorism violates the fundamental human rights and freedoms, and threatens international peace and security. Therefore, combating terrorism must be all-encompassing and devoid of any double standard and selectivity. Governments, based on their international commitments, are obligated to refrain from providing any kinds of support to terrorists, including harbouring and financing them and precluding control over their activities and movements.

In view of the above, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly protests against the said decision and cautions the French Government about the negative consequences that it may entail. It expects that all Governments in whose territories the elements of the MKO are present, especially the French Government, to promptly adopt necessary measures aimed at controlling and suppressing the activities of this group and its affiliated front institutions, which are, inter alia, engaged in planning acts of terrorism and money-raising activities under cover of

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charity organizations to support the MKO's illegal actions and promoting violence and terrorism.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 108, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) M. Javad **Zarif**